

child goes missing. The sad truth is that it happens to Black kids far more often. Missing Black children made up over one-third of the missing child cases in 2019—over one-third. Yet, it has also been shown these children receive much less media coverage than their counterparts from other demographics.

The media dedicates an enormous amount of time to discuss racism in Congress, schools, police departments, and various other American institutions, so why is it acceptable for the media to dedicate less attention to missing Black kids?

We all know this is not okay, Madam Speaker, but the American public doesn't know this is happening because our media is failing to cover this story.

Every child is made in the image of God and legally equal under the U.S. Constitution. We need to dedicate all the time and resources we can to recover missing kids, regardless of the color of their skin.

HONORING TECHNICAL SERGEANT DURWARD B. SWANSON

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Technical Sergeant Durward B. Swanson, a World War II veteran and survivor of the Pearl Harbor attacks, as the Tennessee Second District's Veteran of the Month.

Swanson joined the Army Air Corps in 1939 and was sent to Hickam Field, adjacent to the Pearl Harbor Naval Base. He originally signed up to do bomber maintenance, but a sergeant noticed he had skills on a Harley-Davidson and asked if he would head the air police motorcycle unit instead. He accepted that position, Madam Speaker.

On December 7, 1941, when Japanese bombers attacked the airbase, Swanson jumped onto his motorcycle to search for his best friend, Albert Jackson "Stud" Lloyd, who was standing in the middle of a ballfield shooting at the planes and cussing up a storm. Swanson drove onto the field and brought his friend back to safety.

After the attack, Swanson and Lloyd removed the damaged flag from the Hickam Field flagpole and folded it to prevent it from being flown overnight.

Following his service, Swanson played guitar for country music legend Hank Williams before deciding the music business wasn't for him. That would be Hank Williams, Sr., if anyone is wondering.

He went on to speak to schools across the United States and travel with groups to Pearl Harbor and the World War II Memorial in Washington.

In June, he celebrated his 100th birthday at the Ben Atchley veterans' home.

There are true heroes in our country, and they aren't famous athletes or movie stars. They are the brave men and women of our Armed Forces, like Durward Swanson.

Madam Speaker, I thank Durward for his service.

BUILD BACK BETTER THROUGH COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share with you some of the important projects we have nominated as part of the community project funding process, 10 projects that will bring more than \$8.4 million in critical funding to my district and which have now been included in the House Appropriations Committee's fiscal year 2022 funding bill.

It is my honor to represent the residents of PA-05 in Congress, and I am thrilled to have secured funding for these projects that were submitted by nonprofit and government agencies in our region and that met the rigorous funding criteria laid out by Congress.

The projects our office nominated for inclusion address some of the most pressing needs in our region: economic development, climate resilience, treatment for opioid use disorder, and expanding mental health resources.

Each of these projects will also help deliver on House Democrats' and President Biden's promise to build back better, to set the table for success for the American people, now and in the future.

Today, I would like to shine the spotlight on two projects I am particularly proud of.

The Delaware County Mobile Crisis teams project will provide an alternative response for emergency calls involving people suffering from mental illness. For too long, our mental health system has been woefully underfunded. As a result, all too frequently, people living with mental illness or cognitive disabilities have ended up in our criminal justice system, often with fatal consequences. We can do better.

Around the country, communities have begun to address this dearth of mental health resources and overreliance on the criminal justice system by developing programs to provide alternatives to and diversion from arrest, abuse, and incarceration.

At the Federal level, I am proud to have introduced the Mental Health Justice Act, which would make it easier for State and local governments to develop these programs and send trained mental health professionals instead of police when someone calls 911 because an individual is experiencing a mental health crisis.

At the local level, I am proud to support Delaware County's application to fund just such a project in this year's appropriations bill, a project to address the mental and behavioral health challenges of residents who might otherwise find themselves in the criminal justice system.

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The county proposal will create mobile crisis teams stationed with the county's Emergency Services Depart-

ment. These teams will be dispatched in conjunction with law enforcement in response to requests for help for persons known or suspected to be suffering from mental illness with the goal of diverting them from the criminal justice system into treatment with access to prioritized admission and to properly address their underlying needs.

This program is a collaboration among Delaware County's human services, health adviser, district attorney, and public defender. I commend these county leaders for looking forward, and I look forward to seeing the positive impact mobile crisis teams can have on our community.

Another project that I was proud to secure funding for in the fiscal year '22 appropriations bill is for the restoration and reopening of the historic Lansdowne Theater.

The 1927 Lansdowne Theater is an Art Deco gem that will be rehabilitated into a regional concert hall and spur investment in the surrounding community. The \$1.5 million in Federal funding we have secured in the appropriations bill will be the final dollars for this \$15 million project so that it can immediately start the restoration needed to bring this community treasure back to life.

We anticipate the project will create 51 jobs to operate the theater and 100 permanent jobs in businesses nearby, in addition to over 100 jobs for the trades during construction. Once completed, the theater will breathe new economic life into the community and attract more arts and culture to PA-5.

It will create opportunities for enhanced educational programs for area students through internships and access to different genres of music.

This transformational investment is integral to a broader plan to create an anchor in the community to restore, enhance, and spur economic activity in this part of the Baltimore Pike commercial district.

The community project funding program is a win for the American people. It gives our communities the opportunity to make their case directly to Congress for funding to make bold, progressive investments that are exactly what our community and communities across the country need to recover and rebuild.

This is what keeping a promise looks like. I look forward to continuing to fight for the people with these new investments.

FREE CUBA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CRENSHAW) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support and encourage the brave men and women of Cuba.

Last week we saw unprecedented images and videos from across Cuba. Tens of thousands of Cubans took to the street. They took to the street not because of COVID or vaccines or the embargo but because they demand their